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At this season the Cristatella groups are full of statoblasts or winter eggs, in all stages of development. The mature statoblasts, including the annulus, but excluding the marginal anchor spines, measure from 1.15 mm. to 1.225 mm. in breadth. Of fifteen specimens, seven measured 1.2 mm. in breadth. The number of anchor spines usually ranges from 60 to 70; but in a few specimens as low as 53 and as high as 74 were counted. Both in size and the number of spines they considerably exceed those of *Cristatella mucedo* and *C. ophidoidea.*

The individual polyps of *Cristatella Idae* when fully extended are about 3 mm. in length, and their arms support about 80 tentacles. The stomach is chocolate brown; sometimes lighter yellowish or greenish-brown.

The same locality was further remarkable for its profusion of other animals, especially for the abundance of flesh-colored Hydras, and the groups of Vorticellas. Tufts of Anacharis were white from the latter.

Lieut. C. A. H. McAuley, U.S. A., was elected a correspondent.

OCTOBER 7.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty persons present.

On Amœba Blattæ.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that while perusing the communication of Prof. Bütschli on "Flagellata and other related Organisms" (Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Flagellaten und einiger verwandten Organismen), in the Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Zoologie, 1878, 205, his attention was especially attracted by the description of a parasitic amœboid living in the intestine of the cockroach, *Blatta orientalis.* It recalled to mind that he had observed the same creature a number of years ago, in association with the ciliated infusorian he had described as *Nyctotherus ovalis.* At that time he had viewed it as a young form of a Gregarina, and had intended giving it and other parasites of the cockroach more critical examination, but failed to do so. The parasitic amœboid, which Prof. Bütschli describes under the name of *Amœba Blattæ* is particularly interesting on account of its habit and its somewhat peculiar character. Prof. L. had recently examined some cockroaches, and found abundance of the amœboid in association with *Nyctotherus ovalis*, *Lophomonas blattarum*, *Oxyurus gracilis*, and *O. appendiculatus*, and an algoid plant.

The amœboid he thought was worthy of a generic distinction from the true *Amœba* holding a position between this and *Protamœba.* From the former it differed in the absence of a contractile vesicle and commonly also of vacuoles, and in the want of differentiation of endosarc and ectosarc; and from the latter in the possession of a well-defined nucleus. He proposed for it the following name with distinctive characters:—

ENDAMŒBA.

General character and habit of *Amœba;* composed of colorless, homogeneous, granular protoplasm, in the ordinary normal active condition without distinction of ectosarc and endosarc; with a distinct nucleated nucleus, but ordinarily with neither contractile vesicle nor vacuoles.

ENDAMŒBA BLATTÆ.

Eine art Proteus. Seibold: Beitr. z. Naturges, d. wirb. Thiere, 1839, *fide* Stein.

Amöbenform. Stein: Organismus d. Infusionstheire, 1867, II., 345.

Amœba Blattæ. Bütschli: Zeits. f. wis. Zoologie, 1878, xxx. 273, Taf. xv., Fig. 26.

Initial form globular passing into spheroidal, oval, or variously lobate forms, mostly clavate and moving with the broader pole in advance. Protoplasm finely granular, and when in motion more or less distinctly striate. Nucleus spherical, granular, with a large nucleolus. Distinct food particles commonly few or none. Size of globular forms 0.054 mm. to 0.075 mm. in diameter; elongated forms 0.075 mm. by 0.06 mm. to 0.15 mm. by 0.09 mm. Parasitic in the large intestine of *Blatta orientalis.*

The *Endamœba blattæ* affords a good example of a primitive, active *nucleated organic corpuscle*, or a so-called *organic cell without a cell wall.* In the encysted condition it would be a complete nucleated organic cell. *Endamœba* may be recommended as a convenient illustration of a primitive form of the organic cell on account of its comparatively ready access.

OCTOBER 14.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-two persons present.

On the Supposed Sensitive Character of the Glands of the Asclepiadaceæ.—Mr. E. POTTS, referring to a communication made a year ago to the Academy and published in its Proceedings for 1878, p. 283, with regard to the supposed discovery of a sensitive contractile power analogous to that of *Dionea*, in the stigmatic glands of the Asclepiadaceæ, said that during the past summer he had given many hours to a careful examination of the subject, resulting in an entire failure to confirm his former position. This examination had embraced at least five species of the typical genus—*Asclepias*, and single species of each of the allied genera,—*Araujia*, *Physianthus*, *Hoya*, *Gonolobus*, and *Stapelia.*